

REMARKS

I. Amendment

By this amendment, claims 1-12 and 21-23 have been cancelled; claims 13, 14, 18 and 19 have been amended and new claim 25 has been added.

This amendment adds no new matter to the specification.

II. Discussion of the Rejections under 35 U.S.C. Sec. 102(e) over Akiyama *et al.*

Claims 1-6, 8-11, 13-16, 18, 19, 21, 22 and 24 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. Sec. 102(e) as allegedly anticipated by Akiyama *et al.* (WO 02/47723). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

By this amendment, claims 1-6, 8-11 and 21-23 have been cancelled. Claims 13-16, 18, 19 and 24 have been made dependent upon new claim 25. The new claim 25 does not add new matter to the specification, as support for the claim may be found in Example 65 (page 189, Table 9) of the specification *inter alia*. Applicants submit that the aspects of their invention set forth in new claim 25 are not anticipated by the cited reference. Similarly, the more specific dependent claims are also not anticipated by the cited reference.

Therefore Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. Sec. 102(e) rejections.

III. Discussion of the Rejection of Claim 19 under 35 U.S.C. Sec. 112, First Paragraph

Claim 19 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. Sec. 112, first paragraph as allegedly lacking enablement. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

By this amendment, claim 19 has been modified to cancel the phrase "preventing or".

Therefore, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. Sec. 112, first paragraph rejection of claim 19.

IV. Discussion of the Objection to Claim 21

Claim 21 has been objected to for inclusion of an extraneous punctuation mark. Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for noting the error. However, as claim 21 has been cancelled by this amendment, the objection is moot.

V. Conclusion

Reconsideration of the pending claims as amended is requested. Should the Examiner believe that a conference with Applicants' attorney would advance prosecution of this application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call Applicants' attorney at (847) 383-3391.

Respectfully submitted,

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